

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 OPIC-03 /078 W

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R 251703Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1855

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

DIA WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1049

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, PO

SUBJ: PPD AND AFM INSTITUTIONALIZATION PROPOSALS

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REFS: (A) LISBON 1025; (B) LISBON 1000

SUMMARY: OBJECTING TO CERTAIN FEATURES OF AFM INSTITUTIONALIZATION PROGRAM, PPD PLANS TO OFFER COUNTERPROPOSAL IN MEETING WITH AFM LATER IN WEEK. END SUMMARY.

1. A RELIABLE PPD SOURCE IN A POSITION TO KNOW TOLD EMBOFF FEB 25 THAT PPD REPRESENTATIVES SET TO MEET WITH ARMED FORCES REPRESENTATIVES FEB 27 TO DISCUSS INSTITUTIONALIZATION QUESTION. PPD HAS PREPARED A COUNTERPROPOSAL TO AFM PROGRAM WHICH WAS PRESENTED TO FIVE PARTIES IN GENERAL FORM FEB 21. (REF A). PPD COUNTERPROPOSAL REPORTEDLY CONTAINS "ABOUT TEN PERCENT OF WHAT AFM SEEKING."

2. PPD OBJECTS TO THREE SPECIFIC FEATURES OF AFM PROPOSAL: AFM SANCTION OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES; CERTAIN MINISTRIES SUCH AS DEFENSE AND ECONOMY TO BE FILLED BY AFM; AND COUNCIL OF STATE VETO POWERS OVER CABINET LEGISLATION AND CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE POWERS OF ITS OWN. WE WERE TOLD THAT AT INITIAL FEB 21 MEETING CDS, PPD AND SOCIALISTS OPPOSED THESE FEATURES OF AFM PROPOSAL. THE COMMUNISTS AND THE MDP/CDE RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO AFM PROPOSALS.

3. IN ADDITION TO SEVEN POINTS OF AFM INSTITUTIONALIZATION PROGRAM ALREADY REPORTED (REF B), AFM INTRODUCED SEVEN OTHER PROPOSALS FOR ACCEPTANCE BY PARTIES AT FEB 21 SESSION. THESE EXTRA SEVEN PROPOSALS TERMED "MINOR" BY OUR INFORMANT. PPD BELIEVES THEY PUT INTO PACKAGE AS "THROWAWAYS" FOR BARGAINING PURPOSE. PPD EXPECTS AFM TO YIELD ON MINOR ISSUES, BUT TO STAND PAT ON SEVEN BEDROCK PROPOSALS. PPD PLANS TO PUT UP A FIGHT ANYWAY IN HOPES OF TONING DOWN PARTS OF PACKAGE IT FINDS UNACCEPTABLE.

4. PPD WILL NOT LEAVE GOVERNMENT EVEN IF FORCES TO ACCEPT ALL OF AFM PROPOSALS IN ORIGINAL FORM. PARTY FEARS THAT FAILURE TO COME TO AGREEMENT WITH AFM COULD RESULT IN AFM REFUSAL TO PERMIT PARTY TO RUN CANDIDATES. ON OTHER HAND, IF PPD FORCED TO ACCEPT CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS WITH WHICH IT CANNOT LIVE, IT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS WITH PARTY MILITANTS REFUSING TO RUN.

5. EXPECTATION IN POLITICAL CIRCLES IS THAT ELECTION CAMPAIGN WILL NOT BEGIN MARCH 3 AS SCHEDULED BUT RATHER ABOUT MARCH 10
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BECAUSE OF EXPECTED DIFFICULTY IN AFM-POLITICAL AGREEMENT ON INSTITUTIONALIZATION. IF CAMPAIGN DELAYED IT SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON REST OF ELECTORAL CALENDAR, INCLUDING APRIL 12 ELECTION DATE.
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